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EXAMINER

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2622

DATE MAILED: 04/03/2003

33

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

SJ

Office Action Summary

Application No.

08/997,706

Applicant(s)

EJIRI, SEISHI

Examiner

Joseph R. Pokrzywa

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 February 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7-11, 17-19 and 21-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 7-11, 17-19 and 21-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/14/03 has been entered.

Response to Amendment

2. Applicant's amendment received on 1/16/03 has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 1-4, 7-11, 17-19, and 21-28** are pending.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 1/16/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Upon further review of the amended claims, the examiner finds that the reference of Kosaka (U.S. Patent Number 6,119,142) can still be interpreted to anticipate independent **claims 1, 7, 18, 19, 21-24, 27, and 28**, as currently worded. As understood by the examiner, the applicant argues on pages 15-17 that Kosaka fails to teach of transmitting the document itself to the data processing terminal in the notification. The examiner notes that this is not specifically required in the claims, since currently, the claims only specify notifying a data processing

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terminal of ... the document transmitted by said data transmitter. Particularly, the limitation, as recited in claim 1, states “a notification unit, adapted to notify a data processing terminal, via said connector, of transmission result information representing a document transmission performed by said data transmitter based on the designation inputted by said operation input unit and the document transmitted by said data transmitter”. The examiner notes that this limitation can be understood as notifying a data processing terminal of ... “the document transmitted by said data transmitter”. Using this interpretation, one of ordinary skill in the art can understand that Kosaka teaches of notifying of the document, as well as notifying of transmission result information. Kosaka discloses a notification unit adapted to notify a data processing terminal (column 7, lines 29 through 45, being a terminal on the LAN), via the connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124) of transmission result information (being the transmission management information seen in Fig. 7, column 8, lines 46 through 67) representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 4, line 39 through column 5, line 11, column 7, lines 42 through 45, and column 8, lines 46 through 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted by the data transmitter (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document).

4. Therefore, the rejection of independent *claims 1, 7, 18, 19, 21-24, 27, and 28*, as cited in the Office action dated 11/19/02, under 35 U.S.C. 102(e), as being anticipated by Kosaka (U.S. Patent Number 6,119,142) is maintained, with a full discussion appearing below. Similarly, for the same reasons discussed above, the rejection of *claim 17*, as cited in the Office action dated

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11/19/02, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), as being unpatentable over Kosaka (Japanese Patent Number 9-18498, using U.S. Patent Number 6,119,142 as an English translation) in view of Kikuchi *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,552,901), is maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. **Claims 1-4, 7, 9-11, 18, 19, and 21-28** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kosaka (U.S. Patent Number 6,119,142, cited in the Office action dated 11/19/02).

Regarding ***claim 1***, Kosaka discloses a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 2) which comprises a connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 24 through 29), adapted to connect a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals (seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43) to the data communication system (see Fig. 2), an operation input unit (operation unit 112, see Fig. 1), adapted to receive a manual designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, lines 14 through 16), a data transmitter (network control unit NCU 109), adapted to transmit a document based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 2, line 64 through column 3, line 6, and column 6, lines 43 through 49), with the document being transmitted to an external data

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communication terminal (facsimile 208) via a line (through wire communication line 120) that does not include the connector (see Figs. 1 and 2, column 5, lines 1 through 11), and a notification unit (CPU 101 performing a control program from ROM 102, column 2, lines 43 through 53), adapted to notify a data processing terminal (column 7, lines 29 through 45, being a terminal on the LAN), via the connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124) of transmission result information (being the transmission management information seen in Fig. 7, column 8, lines 46 through 67) representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 4, line 39 through column 5, line 11, column 7, lines 42 through 45, and column 8, lines 46 through 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted by the data transmitter (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document), wherein the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information in accordance with a change in state of the data communication system (column 5, lines 1 through 11, column 8, lines 20 through 67, and Figs. 4 and 8), wherein the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the data transmitter (steps S40-S42 which occurs after step S38 in Fig. 8, column 8, lines 20 through 27), and wherein the notification unit notifies, in a case where user information is inputted by the operation unit with an address of the external data communication terminal, a data processing terminal corresponding the user information of the transmission result information (see Fig. 7).

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Regarding **claim 2**, Kosaka discloses the data communication system discussed in claim 1 above, and further teaches that the data transmitter transmits the document based on a second designation from the data processing terminal connected to the data communication system via the connector (column 6, lines 43 through 62, and column 7, line 57 through column 8, line 23).

Regarding **claim 3**, Kosaka discloses the data communication system discussed in claim 1 above, and further teaches of the transmission result information notified by the notification unit includes a transmission destination (see Fig. 7, column 7, lines 37 though 56).

Regarding **claim 4**, Kosaka discloses the data communication system discussed in claim 1 above, and further teaches of the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information in accordance with a change in information to be notified (column 8, lines 20 through 67).

Regarding **claim 7**, Kosaka discloses a data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 2) which comprises a connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 24 through 29), adapted to connect a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals (seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43) to the data communication system (see Fig. 2), an operation input unit (operation unit 112, see Fig. 1), adapted to receive a manual designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, lines 14 through 16), with the operation input unit being a part of the data communication system (see Fig. 1), a designation unit (operation unit 112, see Fig. 1), adapted to designate an ID (sender terminal identifier, column 4, lines 47 through 57, column 7, line 61 through column 8, line 3, discussing steps S32 and S33 in Fig. 8), representing a user on the network connected by said connector (LAN controller 124), from the manual designation inputted by way of an operation of the operation

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input unit (column 7, line 61 through column 8, line 3), a data transmitter (network control unit NCU 109), adapted to transmit a document based on a destination inputted by the operation input unit in accordance with an ID designation performed by the designation unit (column 7, line 55 through column 8, line 3), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (facsimile 208) via a line (through wire communication line 120) that does not include the connector (see Figs. 1 and 2), a notification unit (CPU 101 performing a control program from ROM 102, column 2, lines 43 through 53), adapted to notify the user on the network connected by the connector (column 7, lines 29 through 45, being a terminal on the LAN) corresponding to the ID designated by the designation unit, via the connector (step S32 in Fig. 8, column 7, line 65 through column 8, line 3), of information representing a document transmission performed by the data transmitter based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (see Fig. 7, column 7, lines 57 through 67, and column 8, lines 46 through 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted by the data transmitter (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document), a determination unit (CPU 101 performing a control program from ROM 102, column 2, lines 43 through 53), adapted to determine whether or not the ID is designated by the designation unit (step S32 in Fig. 8), and a controller (CPU 101 performing a control program from ROM 102, column 2, lines 43 through 53), adapted to control the notification unit in accordance with a determination result of the determination unit (see Fig. 8), wherein the notification unit notifies the data processing terminal of information related to the

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document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the data transmitter (step S40 which occurs after step S38 in Fig. 8, column 8, lines 20 through 45).

Regarding *claim 9*, Kosaka discloses the data communication system discussed in claim 7 above, and further teaches that the ID designated by the designation unit is information representing a user on a network (sender-terminal identifier, column 4, lines 33 through 38, and column 7, line 61 through column 8, line 3).

Regarding *claim 10*, Kosaka discloses the data communication system discussed in claim 7 above, and further teaches that the data transmitter transmits the document, based on the designated ID, from the data processing terminal connected to the data communication system via the connector (column 7, line 57 through column 8, line 23).

Regarding *claim 11*, Kosaka discloses the data communication system discussed in claim 7 above, and further teaches of the information notified by the notification unit includes a transmission destination (see Fig. 7, column 7, lines 37 through 56).

Regarding *claim 18*, Kosaka discloses computer-readable storage medium (ROM 102) storing a program (column 2, lines 43 through 53) for implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (facsimile 201, seen in Figs. 1 and 2) connected to a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals (seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43) via a connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 24 through 29), with the program comprising program code for an input step of receiving a designation manually inputted by an operator (through operation unit 112, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 14 through 16), program code for a transmission step of transmitting a document based on the designation manually inputted in the input step (column 2, line 64 through column 3, line

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6, and column 6, lines 43 through 49), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (facsimile 208) via a line (through wire communication line 120) that does not include the connector (see Figs. 1 and 2), and program code for a notification step of notifying the data processing terminal (column 7, lines 29 through 45), via the connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124) of transmission result information (column 8, lines 46 through 67) representing a document communication performed in the transmission step based on the designation inputted in the input step (see Fig. 7, column 7, lines 57 through 67, and column 8, lines 46 through 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted by the transmission step (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document) and in accordance with a change in state of the data communication system (column 5, lines 1 through 11, column 8, lines 20 through 67, and Figs. 4 and 8), wherein the notification step notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmission step (steps S40-S42 in Fig. 8, which occurs after step S38, column 8, lines 20 through 45), and wherein the notification step includes notifying, in a case where user information is inputted in the input step with an address of the external data communication terminal, a data processing terminal corresponding the user information of the transmission result information (see Fig. 7).

Regarding *claim 19*, Kosaka discloses a computer-readable storage medium (ROM 102) storing a program (column 2, lines 43 through 53) for implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (facsimile 201, seen in Figs. 1 and 2) connected to a network that is

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connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals (seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43) via a connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 24 through 29), with the program comprising program code for an input step of receiving a designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, lines 14 through 16) using an operation unit that is a part of the data communication system (operation unit 112, seen in Fig. 1), program code for a designation step of designating an ID (sender terminal identifier, column 4, lines 47 through 57, column 7, line 61 through column 8, line 3, discussing steps S32 and S33 in Fig. 8), representing a user on the network connected by the connector (LAN controller 124), from the manually inputted designation (column 7, line 61 through column 8, line 3), program code for a transmission step of transmitting a document based on a designation manually inputted in the input step using the operation input unit (column 7, line 57 through column 8, line 23), with the document being transmitted to an external data communication terminal (facsimile 208) via a line (through wire communication line 120) that does not include the connector (see Figs. 1 and 2), program code for a notification step of notifying the user on the network connected by the connector (column 7, lines 29 through 45) corresponding to the designated ID, via the connector (step S32 in Fig. 8, column 7, line 65 through column 8, line 3), of information representing a document communication performed in the transmission step based on the designation manually inputted in the input step (see Fig. 7, column 7, lines 57 through 67, and column 8, lines 46 through 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted by the transmission step (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document), program code for a determination

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step of determining whether or not the ID is designated in the designation step (step S32 in Fig. 8), and program code for a control step of controlling the notification step in accordance with a determination result of the determination step (see Fig. 8), wherein the notification step notifies the data processing terminal of information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmission step (step S40 in Fig. 8, which occurs after step S38, column 8, lines 20 through 45).

Regarding *claim 21*, Kosaka discloses a data communication system (facsimile 201, seen in Figs. 1 and 2) that communicates with an external device (facsimile 208) via a transmission path (through wire communication line 120), and that communicates with a data processing terminal (seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43), with the system comprising a signal path (wired/wireless LAN controller 124, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 24 through 29) through which the data communication system (facsimile 201) communicates with the data processing terminal (column 3, lines 24 through 43), with the signal path being a path different from the transmission path (see Figs. 1 and 2), an input section (operation unit 112, see Fig. 1) through which an operator manually inputs a designation to the data communication system (column 3, lines 14 through 16), a transmitter (network control unit NCU 109) that, based upon the manually inputted designation (column 2, line 64 through column 3, line 6, and column 6, lines 43 through 49), transmits a document through the transmission path (wire communication line 120) to the external device (facsimile 208), and a notifier (CPU 101 performing a control program from ROM 102, column 2, lines 43 through 53) that, because of a change in state of the data communication system (column 5, lines 1 through 11, column 8, lines 20 through 67, and Figs. 4 and 8), notifies the data processing terminal (column 7, lines 29 through 45) through the

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signal path (wired/wireless LAN controller 124) of transmission result information (column 8, lines 46 through 67) corresponding to the document transmission by the transmitter based upon the manually inputted designation (see Fig. 7, column 7, lines 57 through 67, and column 8, lines 46 through 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted by the transmitter (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 6, line 63 through column 7, line 2, and column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document), wherein the notifier notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed by the data transmitter (steps S40-S42 in Fig. 8, which occur after step S38, column 8, lines 20 through 45), and wherein the notifier notifies, in a case where user information is inputted by the input unit with an address of the external device, a data processing terminal corresponding the user information of the transmission result information (see Fig. 7).

Regarding *claim 22*, Kosaka discloses a method of controlling a data communication system (facsimile 201, seen in Figs. 1 and 2) that communicates with an external device (facsimile 208) and with a data processing terminal (seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43), comprising a step of manually inputting a designation to the data communication system (through operation unit 112, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 14 through 16), a step of transmitting a document to the external device (facsimile 208) via a transmission path (wire communication line 120), based upon the manually inputted designation (column 2, line 64 through column 3, line 6, and column 6, lines 43 through 49), with the transmitting step producing transmission result information (column 8, lines 46 through 67), and a step of

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notifying, as a consequence of a change in a state of the data communication system (column 5, lines 1 through 11, column 8, lines 20 through 67, and Figs. 4 and 8), and via a signal path (wired/wireless LAN controller 124) that does not correspond to the transmission path (see Figs. 1 and 2), the data processing terminal of the transmission result information (see Fig. 7, column 7, lines 57 through 67, and column 8, lines 46 through 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted by the transmitting step (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 6, line 63 through column 7, line 2, and column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document), wherein the notifying step notifies the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmitting step (steps S40-S42 in Fig. 8, which occur after step S38, column 8, lines 20 through 45), and wherein the notifying step includes notifying, in a case where user information is inputted in the input step with an address of the external device, a data processing terminal corresponding the user information of the transmission result information (see Fig. 7).

Regarding *claim 23*, Kosaka discloses a computer-readable storage medium (ROM 102) storing a program (column 2, lines 43 through 53) for implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (facsimile 201, seen in Figs. 1 and 2) that communicates with an external device (facsimile 208) and with a data processing terminal (seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43), with the program comprising code for an input step of inputting a designation to the data communication system (through operation unit 112, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 14 through 16), code for a transmission step of transmitting a document to the

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external device (facsimile 208) via a transmission path (wire communication line 120), based upon the manually inputted designation (column 2, line 64 through column 3, line 6, and column 6, lines 43 through 49), with the transmitting step producing transmission result information (column 8, lines 46 through 67), and code for a notification step of notifying, as a consequence of a change in a state of the data communication system (column 5, lines 1 through 11, column 8, lines 20 through 67, and Figs. 4 and 8), and via a signal path (wired/wireless LAN controller 124) that is not the transmission path (see Figs. 1 and 2), the data processing terminal of the transmission result information (see Fig. 7, column 7, lines 57 through 67, and column 8, lines 46 through 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted by the transmission step (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 6, line 63 through column 7, line 2, and column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document), wherein the notification step includes notifying the data processing terminal of the transmission result information related to the document transmission upon completion of the document transmission performed in the transmitting step (steps S40-S42 in Fig. 8, which occur after step S38, column 8, lines 20 through 45), and wherein the notifying step includes notifying, in a case where user information is inputted in the input step with an address of the external device, a data processing terminal corresponding the user information of the transmission result information (see Fig. 7).

Regarding **claim 24**, Kosaka discloses a data communication system comprising a connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 24 through 29), adapted to connect a data processing terminal to said data communication system (seen in Fig. 2,

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and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43), an operation input unit (operation unit 112, see Fig. 1), adapted to receive a manual designation manually inputted by an operator (column 3, lines 14 through 16), an input unit (scanner 111), adapted to input a document to be transmitted to a destination (column 3, lines 7 through 29), a data transmitter (network control unit NCU 109), adapted to transmit the document inputted by the input unit based on the designation inputted by the operation input unit (column 2, line 64 through column 3, line 6, and column 6, lines 43 through 49), the document being transmitted to the destination (facsimile 208) via a line (through wire communication line 120) that does not include the connector (see Figs. 1 and 2), and a notification unit (CPU 101 performing a control program from ROM 102, column 2, lines 43 through 53), adapted to notify the data processing terminal (column 7, lines 29 through 45), via the connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124), of the transmission result information representing a document transmission performed by the transmitter based on the designation input by the operation input unit (see Fig. 7, column 5, lines 1 through 11, and column 7, line 57 through column 8, line 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted by the data transmitter in accordance with a transmission operation (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 6, line 63 through column 7, line 2, and column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document).

Regarding *claim 25*, Kosaka discloses the data communication system discussed in claim 24 above, and further teaches that the connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 24 through 29) connects a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals to the data communication system (see Figs. 1 and 2).

Regarding **claim 26**, Kosaka discloses the data communication system discussed in claim 24 above, and further teaches of a reader which reads an image on a document and generates an image document (scanner 111, column 3, lines 7 through 29), wherein the input unit inputs the image document from the reader and the data transmitter transmits the image document inputted by the input unit (column 3, lines 10 through 29).

Regarding **claim 27**, Kosaka discloses a method of controlling a data communication system, with the method comprising the steps of a reception step (through operation unit 112, see Fig. 1), of receiving a manual designation, manually inputted by an operator (column 3, lines 14 through 16), an input step (through scanner 111), of inputting a document to be transmitted to a destination (column 3, lines 7 through 29), a transmission step (through network control unit NCU 109), of transmitting the inputted document to the destination (facsimile 208) via a line (through wire communication line 120) that does not include a connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 24 through 29, seen in Figs. 1 and 2) adapted to connect a data processing terminal to said data communication system (seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43), with the inputted document based on the received manual designation (column 2, line 64 through column 3, line 6, and column 6, lines 43 through 49), and a notification step, of notifying the data processing terminal (column 7, lines 29 through 45) of the transmission result information representing a document transmission based on the inputted designation input (see Fig. 7, column 5, lines 1 through 11, and column 7, line 57 through column 8, line 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted in accordance with a transmission operation (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 6, line 63 through column 7, line 2, and column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the

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present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document), via the connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124).

Regarding *claim 28*, Kosaka discloses a computer-readable storage medium (ROM 102) storing a program (column 2, lines 43 through 53) for implementing a method for controlling a data communication system (facsimile 201, seen in Figs. 1 and 2), with the program comprising program code for a reception step (through operation unit 112, see Fig. 1), of receiving a manual designation, manually inputted by an operator (column 3, lines 14 through 16), program code for an input step (through scanner 111), of inputting a document to be transmitted to a destination (column 3, lines 7 through 29), program code for a transmission step (through network control unit NCU 109), of transmitting the inputted document to the destination (facsimile 208) via a line (through wire communication line 120) that does not include a connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124, seen in Fig. 1, column 3, lines 24 through 29, seen in Figs. 1 and 2) adapted to connect a data processing terminal to said data communication system (seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43), with the inputted document based on the received manual designation (column 2, line 64 through column 3, line 6, and column 6, lines 43 through 49), and program code for a notification step, of notifying the data processing terminal (column 7, lines 29 through 45) of the transmission result information representing a document transmission based on the inputted designation input (see Fig. 7, column 5, lines 1 through 11, and column 7, line 57 through column 8, line 62, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and the document transmitted in accordance with a transmission operation (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 6, line 63 through column 7, line 2, and column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier,

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thereby notifying the terminal of the document), via the connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

8. **Claim 8** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kosaka (U.S. Patent Number 6,119,142, cited in the Office action dated 11/19/02) in view of Hashimoto *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,644,404, cited in the Office action dated 11/19/02).

Regarding **claim 8**, Kosaka disclose the data communication system discussed in claim 7 above, but fails to specifically teach of the notification unit not performing a notification process in an absence of an ID designated by the designation unit. Hashimoto discloses the data communication system (facsimile server terminal 1, column 4, lines 52 through 58), having a notification unit not performing notification in an absence of an ID designated by the designation means (column 7, lines 46 through 67, and column 8, lines 15 through 32). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Hashimoto's teachings in Kosaka's system. Kosaka's system would be easily modified with the inclusion of Hashimoto's teachings, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

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9. **Claim 17** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kosaka (Japanese Patent Number 9-18498, hereinafter referred to as Kosaka'498, using U.S. Patent Number 6,119,142, issued to Kosaka, cited in the Office action dated 11/19/02, as an English translation) in view of Kikuchi *et al.* (U.S. Patent Number 5,552,901, cited in the Office action dated 11/19/02).

Regarding **claim 17**, Kosaka'498 discloses a method of controlling a system that includes a data communication system (facsimile machine 201, see Figs. 1 and 2) for performing data communication with a destination (facsimile machine 208) and a data processing terminal (server 202) for controlling the data communication system (column 3, lines 30 through 53), with the data communication system being connected to the data processing terminal via a network that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals (LAN 125, seen in Fig. 2, and read in column 3, lines 24 through 43). Kosaka'498's method comprises at the data communication system, inputting a designation manually entered by an operator using an operation input unit (operation unit 112, see Fig. 1, column 3, lines 14 through 16), designating an ID (sender terminal identifier, column 4, lines 47 through 57) based on the manual designation inputted using the operation unit (operation unit 112, see Fig. 1, column 7, line 61 through column 8, line 3), performing document communication with an external data communication terminal (facsimile 208) in accordance with a destination inputted using the operation input unit (column 7, line 55 through column 8, line 3), notifying the data processing terminal corresponding to the designated ID, via a connector (wired/wireless LAN controller 124) connecting the data communication system and the data processing terminal (see Figs. 1 and 2), of communication result information representing the document communication with the external data

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communication terminal based on the inputted designation (column 7, lines 29 through 67, being the message F6, seen in Fig. 7) and a document transmitted by the data communication system (predetermined icon F5, seen in Fig. 7, column 6, line 63 through column 7, line 2, and column 7, lines 37 through 56, whereby the icon F5 shows the present location of a transmission document based on a given document identifier, thereby notifying the terminal of the document).

Further, Kosaka'498 teaches of the steps of at the data processing terminal, instructing the data communication system to communicate with a destination (column 7, line 57 through column 8, line 22), receiving communication result information notified by the data communication system in the notifying step (column 8, lines 20 through 67), wherein the notification step notifies the data processing terminal of the communication result information related to the document communication upon completion of the document transmission performed by the data communication system (step S40 in Fig. 8, occurring after step S38, column 8, lines 30 through 45), and wherein the notification includes notifying, in a case where user information is inputted using the operation input unit with an address of the external data communication terminal, a data processing terminal corresponding the user information of the transmission result information (see Fig. 7).

However, Kosaka'498 fails to teach of independently storing the communication result information related to the document communication based on an instruction in the instructing step and communication result information received from the data communication system in the receiving step. Kikuchi discloses a method of controlling a system (see Figs. 1, 3, and 4) that includes a data communication system (remote fax 9) for performing document communication with a destination (opposite fax 6) and a data processing terminal (fax server 1) for controlling

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the data communication system, with the data communication system being connected to the data processing terminal via a network (LAN 4) that is connectable to a plurality of data processing terminals (see Fig. 1). Kikuchi's method comprises, at the data communication system (remote fax 9), the steps of inputting a designation manually entered by an operator using an operation input unit (column 8, lines 58 through 64), designating an ID based on the manual designation inputted using the operation input unit (see Fig. 4, column 5, lines 59 through 62), performing a document communication with an external data communication terminal (opposite fax 6) in accordance with a designation inputted using the operation input unit (column 8, lines 58 through 66, and column 10, lines 57 through 67), and notifying the data processing terminal (fax server 1) corresponding to the designated ID, via a connector (LAN control unit 21) connecting the data communication system and the data processing terminal, of communication result information representing the document communication with the external data communication terminal (column 8, line 58 through column 9, line 9, and column 17, line 55 through column 18, line 19, wherein the transmission result information includes communication history data which includes the results of the communications with the opposite faxes 6). Kikuchi's method further comprises, at the data processing terminal (fax server 1), the steps of instructing the data communication system (remote fax 9) to communicate with a destination (opposite fax 6, column 9, line 44 through column 10, line 67), receiving communication result information notified by the data communication system in the notifying step (column 17, line 47 through column 18, line 19), and independently storing the communication result information related to the document communication based on an instruction in the instructing step (process of Fig. 10) and communication result information received from the data communication system (column 17,

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lines 60 through 67) in the receiving step (see Fig. 7, column 6, line 64 through column 7, line 24, wherein the user identifier of each opposite communication party with the number of sheets of each communication, along with the result of the communication are stored in management table 32, read in column 7, lines 10 through 25. Since each of the user identifier's and each of the communications are stored with the corresponding communication result, it can be interpreted that the individual communication results are stored independently, whether the result information is received in the reception step, or based on an instruction in the instruction step). Therefore, it would have been obvious to person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include Kikuchi's teachings within Kosaka'498's system. Kosaka'498's system would easily be modified to incorporate Kikuchi's teachings, as the systems share cumulative features, being additive in nature.

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Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joe Pokrzywa whose telephone number is (703) 305-0146. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9314 for regular communications and (703) 872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

J.R.P.

Joseph R. Pokrzywa
Examiner
Art Unit 2622

jrj
April 2, 2003


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